

# Merrimack Police Department 2014 Annual Report

**Submitted by Chief of Police Mark E. Doyle**



To the Honorable Town Council, Town Manager and the citizens of Merrimack, I hereby submit my report for the Merrimack Police Department and Public Safety Communications Center for the 2014 calendar year.

Our community policing philosophy is deeply rooted in our mission, and because of the partnerships we've formed with the schools, the business community, civic organizations and residents, we have been named as the safest community in New Hampshire and **34th safest community in the United States!** Merrimack has been recognized as one of the top 100 safest cities in America with 25,000 or more people – **4** years in a row!



This report will identify the dedicated men and women who serve the Merrimack community. Some of our activities will also be listed here. More detailed accounts regarding our calls for service are available online at our website at **[www.merrimacknh.gov/police](http://www.merrimacknh.gov/police)** or by simply requesting the data from our Records

Division. On our website, you can also access our [Daily Logs](#), [Press Releases](#) and a [Mapping](#) feature pinpointing the location of criminal activity in and around our neighborhoods.

Your Police Department stands ready to address the challenges we all face this coming year. Our employees are committed, compassionate professionals, dedicated to working their hardest to provide the finest in law enforcement services to the citizens of Merrimack. These officers and employees have also completed roughly **2258.5** hours of training this past year - an increase of over **25%** - training designed to help them better meet the needs of the community.

The Police Public Safety Communications Center operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and dispatches for all Emergency Services, including the Fire Department; EMS; and Public Works. They received over **7000** “911” emergency calls from the E911 Center in Concord, and handled approximately **130,000** telephone calls during the year as call-takers; handling requests for service and as part of the normal course of business for the police department.

For those citizens who are not aware, we are now on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [Google Plus](#) and [Pinterest](#). Also, don’t forget to sign up for [Nixle](#) to receive notifications of traffic detours, power outages, missing persons, or emergency situations that affect the community. We recently added our Merrimack Police Community Television show which airs monthly and is also available for viewing, along with many other police department videos on our [YouTube Channel](#). The accessibility of these social media sites by our citizens has helped us bring more information, more quickly, to those who wish it...please take advantage of this media access to your police department to stay abreast of current events and happenings in and around your Town.

Our Community Services Division, in conjunction with [Merrimack Crimeline](#), has signed up **28 Crime Watch** neighborhoods (a total of **60** streets) in an effort to keep our citizens informed of criminal activity and to receive feedback on problems in their particular neighborhoods. Crimeline also has an on-line feature for providing our department with anonymous [TIPS](#) regarding criminal activity.

The department added two very successful programs this past year, one of them being “[Coffee with a Cop](#)”. This is a national program which allows people the opportunity to meet and speak with their officers over a cup of coffee in a comfortable setting. Special thanks to all the local coffee shops for being such great supporters of the program. Our newest program is a firearm safety class. Fifteen local residents took advantage of this course which was instructed by three of our best Firearms training instructors. We will be offering this class twice a year with hopes to spread the knowledge on how to handle and care for a firearm.

If you wish to learn more about our statistics; our [35 Community Service Programs](#); join our [Citizens Police Academy](#); or to sign up for our e-mail update/notification list, please visit the Police Department web site at [www.merrimacknh.gov/police](http://www.merrimacknh.gov/police).

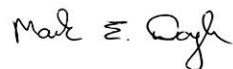
2014 was the completion of our first full year with the [Merrimack Police Volunteers](#), they are a group of citizens that have been thoroughly screened by the department, and are deployed to assist with special functions, from traffic posts at parades to searching for lost persons. A total of over **700** hours were logged by this special group this past year.

Not unlike other communities in our region, we are working hard to develop strategies with local and regional partners to address the increasing epidemic of heroin use and drug overdoses. Merrimack is not alone. Since the beginning of 2014, we have responded to 29 drug-related overdoses of which 14 were attributed to heroin use. Four of those who overdosed on heroin died. Moving forward, our local strategy includes a hosting public forum; a panel discussion on Merrimack TV; and educational outreach in our schools. Many community partners will be asked to join us in this endeavor.

On the National stage, the law enforcement community ended 2014 facing many difficulties and challenges, at this time the Merrimack Police Department would like to extend a sincere “Thank You” to the people of Merrimack for all the support and trust that they have given us to do our job! We will continue to create, build and maintain stronger bonds with all of our community partners and serve with only the highest level of transparency, integrity and professionalism.

As always, let’s all keep Merrimack Safe...if you “See Something, Say Something”!

**Thank you,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Doyle".

**Mark E. Doyle**  
**Chief of Police**

## **Table of Organization**

### **Chief of Police**

Mark E. Doyle

### **Patrol**

Captain Peter Albert –Patrol Commander

Lt. Daniel Edmonds – Shift Supervisor

Lt. Dean Killkelley – Shift Supervisor

Lt. Matt Tarleton – Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Brian Levesque – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Joseph Goodridge – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Dennis Foley – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Theodore Dillon – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Eric Marquis – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Ofc. John Dudash

Ofc. William Gudzinowicz

Ofc. Daniel Lindbom

Ofc. Benjamin Williams

Ofc. Gregory Walters

Ofc. Daniel Jacques

Ofc. Chris Dowling

Ofc. Phillip Landsteiner

Ofc. Michael Marcotte

Ofc. Paul Wells

Ofc. Richard McKenzie

Ofc. Stephen Wallin

Ofc. William Vandersyde

Ofc. Ryan Milligan

Ofc. Christopher Spillane

Ofc. Michael Lambert

Ofc. Sean McGuire

Ofc. Brandon Gagnon

Ofc. Ashley Jette

### **Animal Control Unit**

Animal Control Officers: Elizabeth Fraser &  
Marc Russomanno

### **School Crossing Guards**

Arthur Ducharme

Mary Ann Durin

Patricia Girouard

## **Administrative & Support Services Division**

Captain Michael Dudash – Unit Commander

Lt. Paul Trepaney – Administrative Services

Atty. Melissa Kowalewski - Prosecutor

Officer Robert Kelleher – Community Services Officer

Claire Rioux – Office Manager

Judy York – Legal Secretary

Holly Estey – Secretary to the Detective Unit

Karen Costello – Records Clerk

## **Criminal Investigation Bureau**

Det./Lt. Denise Roy – Bureau Commander

Det. Scott Park

Det. Kenneth Macleod

Det. James Sullivan

Det. Sean Cassell

Det. Michael Murray - School Resource Officer / MHS

Det. Thomas Prentice – School Resource Officer / MMS

## **Communications**

John Spence – Assistant Communications Supervisor

Disp. Erika Maguire

Disp. James Connelly

Disp. Derek Zagzoug

Disp. Shannan Vital

P/T Disp. Beth Graves

P/T Disp. Dana Ketchen

Disp. Michael Piccolo

Disp. Christine Maille

Disp. Dawn Cote

P/T Disp. Robert McDowell

P/T Disp. Diane Wright

P/T Disp. Sean Lester

## **Merrimack Police Volunteers**

Brian Snell  
Brian McCarthy  
Gary Gahan  
Lynn Christensen  
Kay Murphy  
Jody Plante  
Rod Buckley  
John McCarthy  
Pat Murphy  
Judy Eriksen

## **School Resource Officer's Report**

The School Resource Officer's (SRO) are primarily responsible for working within the school system as a law enforcement officer. Their role also involves promoting a safe and drug-free environment while building positive relationships between students, faculty and the police. The SRO's must be motivated to work with the youth and have the ability to gain the respect of adolescents and teenagers while holding them accountable for their actions. The SRO's must have the unique ability to perform the functions of a law enforcement officer, educator and counselor, while becoming an integral member of the school community. The police department has a full time SRO at both the High School and Middle School, while assigning the Community Service Officer to the Upper Elementary school as our P.A.C.T. officer. The police department also requires that all elementary schools receive a visit during the day from a patrol Officer. These are just a few examples of what your department is doing to keep your children safe.

The information below reflects activity between January 01, 2014 and December 31, 2014 and is a combination of the activity generated between Merrimack High School and Merrimack Middle School.

<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
Calls for Service	654
Arrest	26
Accident Reports	14
Theft Reports	30
Criminal Mischief	11
Assaults	27
Court Appearances	5

**Educational**

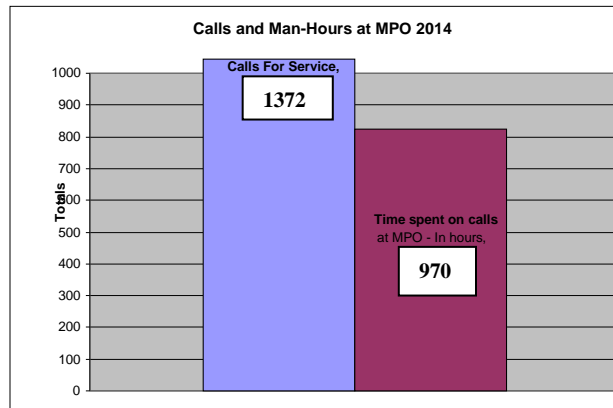
Counseling Sessions w/Students	1, 683
Counseling Session w Parents	311
Classroom Lectures	43
Truancy	105
Agency Referrals	33
Meetings Attended	102
School Events Attended	79
Student Mediation	54
Meetings w/ Juvenile Services Officer	15

## **CALLS FOR SERVICE BREAKDOWN**

*During 2014, your Police Department handled **35,779** calls for service, and also effected **478** arrests. A call for service can be any contact with the public that generates a report.*

### **Requests for Service by Beats (Sector)**

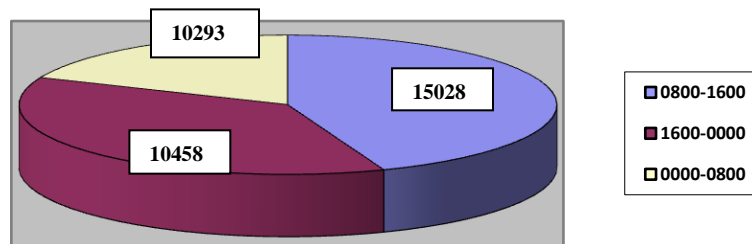
	<u><b>2012</b></u>	<u><b>2013</b></u>	<u><b>2014</b></u>
Beat #1	6854	8497	7926
Beat #2	9564	9629	8374
Beat #3	8018	9444	9367
Beat #4	5581	7668	7604
Merrimack Outlets (MPO)	920*	1440	1372



*\*Represents 6 months of Data – MPO opened in June 2012*

### **Requests for Service by Time of Day**

	<u><b>2012</b></u>	<u><b>2013</b></u>	<u><b>2014</b></u>
0800 – 1600	14331	15494	15028
1600 – 0000	10954	12631	10458
0000 – 0800	6498	9415	10293



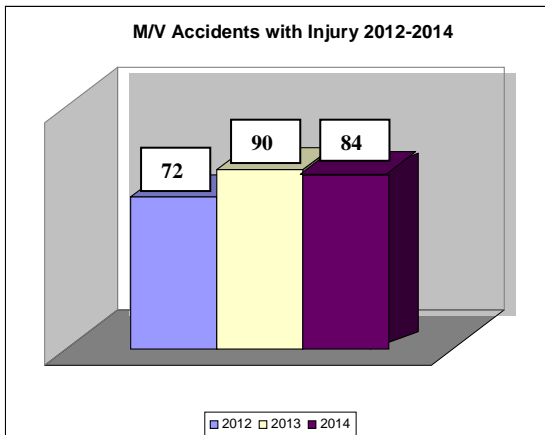
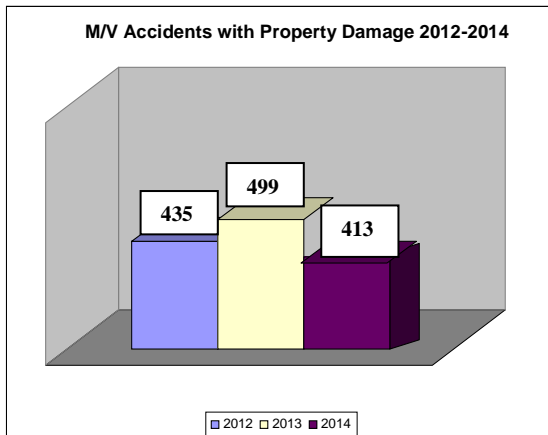
**Criminal Activity Investigated / Calls for Service**

<b><u>Crimes / Calls Investigated</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
<b>Calls for Service-Total</b>	<b>31,783</b>	<b>37,540</b>	<b>35,779</b>
Homicides	0	0	1
Kidnap/False Imprisonment	3	3	6
Agg. Felonious Sex Assault	3	8	8
Sexual Assault	6	7	2
Robbery	1	3	1
Assault	32	29	9
Domestic related offenses	151	149	62
Arson	4	0	0
Burglary	10	5	10
Theft related	64	106	46
Forgery	9	8	4
Fraud	12	22	10
Identity Theft	0	5	2
Criminal Mischief	8	11	31
Drug Offenses	116	130	98
False Report to L.E.	2	2	5
Alcohol Offenses	24	26	18
Protective Custody	86	33	39
Involuntary Emerg. Hosp. (IEA)	10	12	3
Resisting Arrest	16	22	16

Weapons Offenses	0	4	4
Unsworn Falsification	0	8	9
Fugitive from Justice	0	3	0
Bail Jumping	3	7	1
Bench Warrant	42	38	25
Warrant from another P.D.	21	23	30
Breach of Bail/ Vio. Prot. Order	10	25	20
Disorderly Conduct	18	18	11
Prowling	3	9	0

### **Motor Vehicle Accident Summary**

	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
Fatal Accidents	1	0	3
Personal Injury Accidents	72	90	84
Property Damage Accidents	435	499	413
M/V Off the road (No Damage)	23	41	45
Uninvestigated Accidents	7	10	17
Hit & Run / Personal Injury	2	2	2
Hit & Run / Property Damage	50	42	27



### **“Drive Defensively at all Times”**

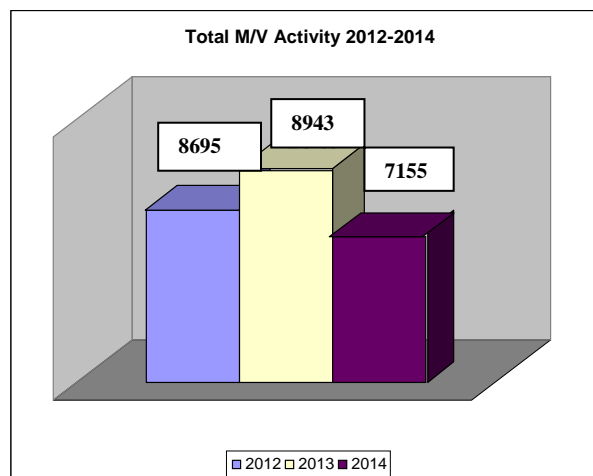
Traffic accidents are more likely to occur in the Town of Merrimack between the hours of:

8 A.M. – 4 P.M.	=	286
4 P.M. – 12 A.M	=	237
12 A.M. – 8 A.M.	=	66

During 2014 between the hours listed above, a total of **589** traffic accidents occurred within our Town.

### **Motor Vehicle Enforcement Summary**

	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
Motor Vehicle Summons	681	670	568
Defective Equipment Tags Issued	926	1003	594
Traffic Warnings Issued	7088	7270	5993



**Animal Control**

	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
<b>Animal Control Complaints - Total</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>540</b>
Cruelty Reports	8	16	11
Bites Reported	25	23	26
Running at Large	217	234	236
Nuisance Offense	31	17	15
Summons Served	22	37	60
Stray Farm Animals	82	9	9
Wild Life & Bear Calls	91	164	100
Dogs Released to Animal Rescue League	12	13	36
Cats & Miscellaneous	67	54	64